

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph [0004], as follows.

--[0004] However, the binocular proposed by Japanese Laid-Open No. Hei-2-284113 has a problem in that it requires a an elusive use prism P for adjusting the eyepiece width (spacing between eyepieces), which makes it difficult to present a compact binocular, since a part of the mirror group M is shared by both the left and right sides to correct the vibrations despite the fact that it provides an advantage in that a pair of light beams that have passed through a pair of object optical systems can be simultaneously correction controlled for vibrations.--

Please amend paragraph [0005], as follows.

--[0005] Also, the above binocular comprises an erecting optical system such as an erecting prism so that it is not applicable to a binocular that does not have an erecting optical system, for example, a Galilean binocular. More over it requires the use of high precision components in order to keep the difference of the left an right optical axes within a certain limit, so that it is difficult to make construction ~~inexpensively~~ inexpensive.--

Please amend paragraph [0008], as follows.

--[0008] In one aspect according to the present invention, a binocular vibration correcting device is provided which comprises: a left and right pair of vibration-correcting optical systems that correct left and right images by being driven in the yaw and

pitch directions in accordance with vibration; a pair of optical system holding members that hold said pair of vibration-correcting optical systems respectively; an intermediate supporting member that supports said left and right optical system holding members so as to be able to rotate in the yaw direction and simultaneously supported by a main body member to be able to rotate in the pitch direction; a connecting member that connects said pair of optical system holding members so as to be able to rotate in the yaw direction at a position distanced in the optical axis direction away from the yaw direction ~~rotate~~ rotational axes of said pair of optical system holding members; a yaw direction drive unit that drives said connecting member in the yaw direction; and a pitch direction drive unit that drives said intermediate supporting member in the pitch direction.--

Please amend paragraph [0009], as follows.

--[0009] Connecting the pair of optical system holding members that hold the vibration correcting optical system with the connecting member provided at a position distanced in the optical axis direction away from their yaw direction ~~rotate~~ rotational axes makes it possible to correct image vibration by rotating the vibration-correcting optical system in both the yaw and pitch directions while maintaining the positional relation of the optical axis of the vibration-correcting optical system securely. For example, if a parallel link that can operate in the yaw direction is constituted by the intermediate supporting member, the pair of optical system holding members and the connecting member, it is possible to maintain a parallel relation securely between the optical axes of the left and right vibration-correcting optical systems.--

Please amend paragraph [0013], as follows.

--[0013] Since an optical system is symmetrical to its optical axis, it is necessary to have the yaw direction ~~rotate~~ rotational axis and the pitch direction ~~rotate~~ rotational axis to be in a same plane. However, since the positions of both ~~rotate~~ rotational axes have some tolerance (in which the optical performances are not much affected), if it is within the tolerance, it is possible to place them in other planes that are parallel to each other. It is also possible to not place them in a same plane in an optical system having an aspect ratio (e.g., camera).--

Please amend paragraphs [0033] through 35, as follows.

--[0033] First, the constructions of the objective optical systems 11L and 11R will be described. The reference numeral 14 denotes a pitch ~~rotate~~ rotational pivot shaft (pitch direction ~~rotate~~ rotational axis) that perpendicularly intersects the optical axes 1L and 1R and extends in the yaw direction, lying on a first plane (H1 in Fig. 8) that perpendicularly intersects the optical axes 1L and 1R.

[0034] The reference numerals 15L and 15R denote the left and right yaw ~~rotate~~ rotational pivot shafts (yaw direction ~~rotate~~ rotational axes) that perpendicularly intersect the optical axes 1L and 1R and extend in the pitch direction, lying on ~~said~~ the first plane. In other words, both the pitch ~~rotate~~ rotational pivot shaft 14 and the yaw ~~rotate~~ rotational pivot shafts 15L and 15R are all lying on ~~said~~ the first plane.

[0035] The reference numerals 16L and 16R denote the left and right connecting ~~rotate~~ rotational pivot shafts extending parallel to the yaw ~~rotate~~ rotational pivot shafts 15L and 15R and are lying on a second plane (H2 in Fig. 8), which is parallel to ~~said~~ the first plane, intersects with the optical axes 1L and 1R, and is distanced from the first plane in the forward direction parallel to the optical axes 1L and 1R.--

Please amend paragraphs [0037] through [0039], as follows.

--[0037] The reference numerals 18L and 18R denote a left and right pair of yaw holding frames (optical system holding members) that hold the rear groups 112L and 112R of the objective optical system 11L and 11R, respectively. The yaw ~~rotate~~ rotational pivot shafts 15L and 15R are integrally attached to these yaw holding frames 18L and 18R.

[0038] A supporting part 18a is formed on top of the yaw holding frame 18L and on the rear of the yaw ~~rotate~~ rotational pivot shaft 15L to support a permanent magnet 26a that constitutes a yaw direction detector 26 to be described later. The permanent magnet 26a is affixed to the supporting part 18a by glue or the like.

[0039] On the rear part of the yaw holding frames 18L and 18R, balancer members 181L and 181R for counterbalancing the weights of the rear groups 112L and 112R relative to the pitch ~~rotate~~ rotational pivot shaft 14 are mounted. The mounting positions of the balancer members 181L and 181R are arbitrarily adjustable in the direction of the optical axes 1L and 1R.--

Please amend paragraph [0041], as follows.

--[0041] The reference numeral 19 denotes an IS main body that has a fitting hole part, into which the pitch ~~rotate~~ rotational pivot shaft 14 is fitted, allowing itself to rotate. The IS main body 19 is formed in such a way as to open widely on the side of the objective optical systems 11L and 11R and to provide opening parts 191L and 191R, through which the rear parts of the yaw holding frames 18L and 18R pass, on the side of the erecting prisms 13L and 13R. Moreover, mounting seats 19a through 19d are provided on the rear end side for mounting the drive control circuit board 29 to be described later.--

Please amend paragraph [0044], as follows.

--[0044] The reference numeral 20 denotes a pitch holding frame (intermediate supporting member), to which the pitch rotating pivot shaft 14 is integrally attached. As mentioned before, the pitch ~~rotate~~ rotational pivot shaft 14 is held in the IS main body 19 to be able to rotate in the pitch direction for a predetermined angle. This makes it possible to rotate the pitch holding frame 20 relative to the IS main body 19 in the pitch direction for a predetermined angle.--

Please amend paragraphs [0057] through [0059], as follows.

--[0057] The reference numeral 26 denotes a yaw direction detector that detects the rotating position (angle) of the yaw holding frame 18L and is comprised of the permanent magnet 26a and a hole device 26b.

[0058] The reference numeral 27 is a yaw direction drive mechanism that drives the yaw bridge 22, which is comprised of a permanent magnet 27a, a yoke 27b and a coil 27c.

[0059] Next, the electrical construction that controls the vibration correcting device will be described below. The vibration correcting device comprises a vibration detectors that detect the amount of vibration of the binocular (instrument vibration) during observation, and a drive control circuit that drives and controls the rear groups 112L and 112R as the vibration-correcting optical system to control them based on the output signal from the vibration detectors so as to suppress the motions of the focused image formed by the object optical system and reduce the vibration of the image being observed. The vibration detectors are comprised of the pitch direction vibration sensor that detects the vibration in the pitch direction and the yaw direction vibration sensor that detects the vibration in the yaw direction.--

Please amend paragraph [0065], as follows.

--[0065] Next, detailed constructions of the ocular optical systems 13L and 13R of the binocular according to the present embodiment will be described. The reference numerals 31L and 31R denote ocular barrels holding the ocular optical systems 13L and 13R, respectively. The ocular barrels 31L and 31R have male helicoids 311L and 311R formed on their outside circumferences, and the male helicoids 311L and 311R mesh with female helicoids 321L and 321R formed on the inside circumferences of ocular holders 32L and 32R to be described later. Consequently, the ocular barrels 31L and 31R,

i.e., ocular optical systems 13L and 13R₂ are capable of moving back and forth along the optical axes 1L and 1R₂ respectively.--

Please amend paragraphs [0074] and [0075], as follows.

--[0074] To be more specific, the interlocking plates 36L and 36R are placed in front of a holding plane 37a provided on a an L-shaped fixed base 37 to be described later, while the prism holders 34L and 34R are placed on the back of the holding plane 37a.

[0075] ~~A flanges~~ Flanges are formed on the front end of the prism holders 34L and 34R₂ respectively, for mounting the interlocking plates 36L and 36R. The interlocking plates 36L and 36R are positioned first on the flanges and then fastened using screws or the like.--

Please amend paragraphs [0088] through [0090], as follows.

--[0088] Although a case of connecting the yaw holding frames 18L and 18R with the yaw bridge 22 in front of the yaw rotate pivot shafts 15L and 15R ~~in the~~ is discussed above, it is also possible to connect the yaw holding frames 18L and 18R with the yaw bridge behind the yaw rotate pivot shafts 15L and 15R. Also, while the rear groups 112L and 112R are placed on the opposite side of the pitch direction drive mechanism 25 across the first plane H1 in the former case (i.e., the present embodiment), it is possible to have the rear groups 112L and 112R on the opposite side of the yaw direction

drive mechanism or both the yaw direction drive mechanism and the pitch direction drive mechanism across the first plane H1 in the latter case.

[0089] Although a case of using the binocular vibration correcting device ~~to~~ for a binocular is discussed in the above embodiment, the binocular vibration correcting device according to this invention can be applied to an optical instrument other than a binocular. For example, it can be applied to a stereoscopic shooting instrument by having the vibration-correcting optical system built into each of the left and right pair of objective optical systems that constitute a stereoscopic shooting optical system and taking left and right images to enable stereoscopic observations using such a stereoscopic shooting optical system.

[0090] According to the above embodiment, the left and right optical system holding members that hold the vibration-correcting optical system are connected by a connecting member provided away from the yaw direction ~~rotate~~ rotational axis in the optical axis direction, so that it is possible to correct image vibration by rotating the vibration-correcting optical system in both the yaw and pitch directions while securely maintaining the relative positions of the optical axes of the vibration-correcting optical system securely. More specifically, by forming a parallel link capable of operating in the yaw direction with the intermediate supporting member, a pair of optical system holding members and the connecting member, the parallel relation of the optical axes of the left and right vibration-correcting optical systems can be securely maintained.--